

CHAPTER 11 — THE POINT SYSTEM AND HOW IT AFFECTS YOU

DRIVING IS A PRIVILEGE

Driving is a privilege, not a right. You can lose your driving privilege if you disobey the traffic laws.

THE POINT SYSTEM

The Department of Revenue adds points to your record when it receives notice that you were convicted of a traffic violation while your vehicle was in motion.

The number of points you receive depends on the conviction. For example, you may receive 2 or 3 points if you are convicted of speeding (depending on if the court was municipal, county, or state level). By contrast, you may receive 12 points and the revocation of your driving privilege if you are convicted of leaving the scene of an accident.

The following are examples of some state law violations and their point values:

<u>VIOLATION</u>	<u>POINT VALUE</u>
Speeding3 points
Careless & Imprudent Driving (Section 304.016.4, RSMo)	.4 points
Knowingly Allowing an Unlicensed Driver to Operate a Vehicle4 points
A Felony Involving a Motor Vehicle12 points
Obtaining a Driver License by Misrepresentation12 points
Operating a Vehicle With a Suspended or Revoked Driver License12 points

WHEN YOU HAVE FOUR OR MORE POINTS

If you accumulate a total of 4 points in 12 months, the Department of Revenue will send you a point accumulation advisory.

If you accumulate a total of 8 or more points in 18 months, the Department of Revenue will suspend your driving privilege.

- 1st suspension — 30 days
- 2nd suspension — 60 days
- 3rd or more suspensions — 90 days

The Department of Revenue will revoke your driving privilege for one year if you accumulate:

- 12 or more points in 12 months
- 18 or more points in 24 months
- 24 or more points in 36 months

To reinstate your driving privilege for a point suspension or revocation you must provide the following:

Non-alcohol related:

- Proof of insurance (SR-22) and
- \$20 reinstatement fee

Alcohol related:

- Proof of insurance (SR-22);
- \$45 reinstatement fee; and
- Completion of a Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program (SATOP) or comparable program

DRIVING WHILE YOUR LICENSE IS SUSPENDED OR REVOKED

If you drive while your license is suspended, your driving privilege may be revoked for one year after conviction. If you continue to drive while your license is revoked, you may be convicted of a felony and have your license revoked again for one year.

POINT REDUCTION

When your driving privilege is reinstated, the Department of Revenue reduces your total points to 4. Every year you drive without getting new points on your record, the points will be reduced.

- 1 year — total remaining points reduced by one-third
- 2 years — remaining points reduced by one-half
- 3 years — points reduced to zero

Although your points may be reduced to zero, certain types of convictions must remain listed permanently on your Missouri driver record.

FAILURE TO APPEAR IN COURT FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (FACT)

When you fail to appear in court for a moving violation, the court will notify you within 10 days of your failure to comply and you will have 30 days to pay the fines before the court notifies the Driver License Bureau. When notified, the Driver License Bureau will immediately suspend your driving privilege.

If you fail to comply, your driving privilege will be suspended until the Bureau receives:

- Proof the ticket is paid and
- A \$20 reinstatement fee.

Your driving privilege may be reinstated for FACT in one of three ways.

1. Take the reinstatement requirements to a contract office. The information will be faxed to the Driver License Bureau in Jefferson City

for review. A reinstatement letter will be prepared and faxed to the contract office to be given to you. If your driver license was previously surrendered, a temporary driving receipt will also be faxed. Your driver license will be mailed to you from the Driver License Bureau central office in Jefferson City.

2. Mail the reinstatement requirements to the Driver License Bureau, P.O. Box 3950, Jefferson City, Missouri 65105-3950.
3. Bring the reinstatement requirements to the Driver License Bureau, Harry S Truman State Office Building, Room 470, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

***IF YOUR DRIVING PRIVILEGE IS
SUSPENDED, REVOKED, OR DENIED
IN ONE STATE, YOU ARE NOT LEGAL
TO DRIVE IN ANY STATE!***